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idle

2 entries found.

- 1 idle (adjective)
- 2 idle (verb)

Main Entry: **idle**

Pronunciation: \T-d·l\

Function: *adjective*

Inflected Form(s): **idler** \T-d-lər, T-d·l-ər\; **idlest** \T-d-ləst, T-d·l-əst\

Etymology: Middle English *idel*, from Old English *īdel*; akin to Old High German *īal* worthless

Date: before 12th century

1 : lacking worth or basis : **VAIN** <idle chatter> <idle pleasure>

2 : not occupied or employed: as a : having no employment : **INACTIVE** <idle workers> b : not turned to normal or appropriate use <idle farmland> c : not scheduled to compete <the team will be *idle* tomorrow>

3 a : **SHIFTLESS**, **LAZY** b : having no evident lawful means of support

synonyms see **VAIN**, **INACTIVE**

— **idle-ness** \T-d·l-nəs\ *noun*

— **idly** \T-d-lē, T-d·l-ē\ *adverb*

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fail

5 entries found.

- ¹fail (verb)
- ²fail (noun)
- ¹fail-safe (adjective)
- ²fail-safe (noun)

Main Entry: ¹fail ⓘ

Pronunciation: \ˈfāl\

Function: *verb*

Eymology: Middle English *failen*, from Anglo-French *faillir*, from Vulgar Latin **fallire*, alteration of Latin *fallere* to deceive, disappoint

Date: 13th century

intransitive verb

1 a : to lose strength : **WEAKEN** <her health was *failing*> **b :** to fade or die away <until our family line *fails*> **c :** to stop functioning normally <the patient's heart *failed*>

2 a : to fall short <*failed* in his duty> **b :** to be or become absent or inadequate <the water supply *failed*> **c :** to be unsuccessful <the marriage *failed*> ; *specifically* : to be unsuccessful in achieving a passing grade <took the exam and *failed*> **d :** to become bankrupt or insolvent

transitive verb

1 a : to disappoint the expectations or trust of <her friends *failed* her> **b :** to miss performing an expected service or function for <his wit *failed* him>

2 : to be deficient in : **LACK** <never *failed* an invincible courage — Douglas MacArthur>

3 : to leave undone : **NEGLECT** <*fail* to lock the door>

4 a : to be unsuccessful in passing <*failed* chemistry> **b :** to grade (as a student) as not passing

— **fail·ing·ly** ⓘ \ˈfā-līŋ-lē\ *adverb*

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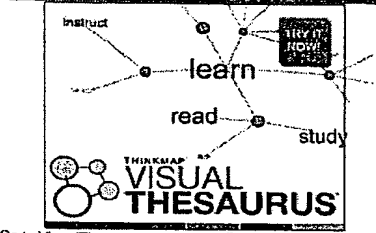
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